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EXAMINER

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Regarding Applicant's arguments, Examiner continues to assert that clustering to divide allocation problems into simpler sub-problems as taught by Jameson equates to decomposition of a supply chain into a plurality of independent sub-problems of the claimed invention. Additionally, Examiner continues to assert that an allocation problem as taught by Jameson can comprise at least one of a demand forecasting planning problem (Example 1 on col. 19, a capacity planning problem is a demand forecasting problem), a service level planning problem (col. 6, lines 46-61, problem if meeting contractual obligations is a service level planning problem), and a replenishment planning problem (Example 1 on col. 19, a capacity planning problem over time is a replenishment planning problem).